

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 139

Approved by the Governor February 11, 2010

Introduced by Avery, 28; Howard, 9.

FOR AN ACT relating to the Commission on Mexican-Americans; to amend sections 81-8,262, 81-8,265, 81-8,270, and 81-8,271.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to rename the commission and a fund; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 81-8,262, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,262 There is hereby created the Commission on ~~Mexican-Americans~~ hereinafter referred to as the ~~commission~~. Latino-Americans. For purposes of sections 81-8,262 to 81-8,271.01, ~~commission~~ means the Commission on Latino-Americans.

Sec. 2. Section 81-8,265, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,265 The functions of the commission shall be to:

(1) Gather and disseminate information and conduct hearings, conferences, and special studies on problems and programs concerning ~~Mexican-Americans;~~ Latino-Americans;

(2) Serve the needs of ~~Mexican-Americans;~~ Latino-Americans, especially in the fields of education, employment, health, housing, welfare, and recreation by offering such services as it may establish for the translation of documents and for the direct assistance of clients, exclusive of legal representation, in matters relating to any federal department or agency or any department or agency of the state or a political subdivision thereof;

(3) Develop, coordinate, and assist public and private organizations and coordinate and assist the efforts of state departments and agencies to serve the needs of ~~Mexican-Americans;~~ Latino-Americans;

(4) Propose new programs concerning ~~Mexican-Americans;~~ Latino-Americans;

(5) Evaluate existing programs and proposed legislation concerning ~~Mexican-Americans;~~ Latino-Americans;

(6) Stimulate public awareness of the problems of ~~Mexican-Americans~~ Latino-Americans by conducting a program of public education and encourage the Governor and the Legislature to develop programs to deal with these problems; and

(7) Conduct training programs for community leadership and service project staff.

Sec. 3. Section 81-8,270, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,270 The director may employ any subordinate personnel necessary to assist him or her in the performance of his or her duties, including clerical staff and technical advisors. The director may employ assistant directors if necessary to develop, assist, and cooperate with local commissions on ~~Mexican-Americans.~~ Latino-Americans.

Sec. 4. Section 81-8,271.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

81-8,271.01 The Commission on ~~Mexican-Americans~~ Latino-Americans Cash Fund is created. The Commission on ~~Mexican-Americans~~ Latino-Americans shall use the fund for commission functions described in sections 81-8,262 to 81-8,271. Money credited to the fund shall include any monetary gifts, grants, and donations. Any money in the fund available for investment shall be invested by the state investment officer pursuant to the Nebraska Capital Expansion Act and the Nebraska State Funds Investment Act. Any money remaining in the Commission on Mexican-Americans Cash Fund on the effective date of this act shall be transferred to the Commission on Latino-Americans Cash Fund on such date.

Sec. 5. Original sections 81-8,262, 81-8,265, 81-8,270, and 81-8,271.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.